

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 66**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Ma**

July 9, 2007

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 66—Relative to Hydrocephalus.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 66, as introduced, Ma. Hydrocephalus Awareness Month.

This measure would declare September 2007 as Hydrocephalus Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition,  
2 characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in  
3 the ventricles of the brain; and  
4 WHEREAS, There is no known cure for hydrocephalus, which  
5 affects an estimated one million Americans; and  
6 WHEREAS, One or two in every 1,000 babies are born with  
7 hydrocephalus; and  
8 WHEREAS, Over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus,  
9 which often goes undetected or is misdiagnosed as dementia,  
10 Alzheimer’s disease, or Parkinson’s disease; and  
11 WHEREAS, With appropriate diagnosis and treatment people  
12 with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives; and  
13 WHEREAS, The standard treatment for hydrocephalus was  
14 developed in 1952, and carries multiple risks including shunt  
15 failure, infection, and overdrainage; and

1 WHEREAS, There are fewer than 10 centers in the United States  
2 specializing in the treatment of adults with normal pressure  
3 hydrocephalus; and

4 WHEREAS, Each year the people of the United States spend  
5 in excess of \$1,000,000,000 to treat hydrocephalus; and

6 WHEREAS, A September 2005 conference sponsored by seven  
7 institutes of the National Institutes of Health, and entitled,  
8 “Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions,” resulted  
9 in efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment  
10 efforts; and

11 WHEREAS, The Hydrocephalus Association is one of the  
12 nation’s oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and  
13 support networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Further research into the epidemiology,  
16 pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved treatment of  
17 hydrocephalus should be conducted or supported; and

18 WHEREAS, Public awareness and professional education  
19 regarding hydrocephalus should increase through partnerships  
20 between the federal government and patient advocacy  
21 organizations, such as the Hydrocephalus Association; now,  
22 therefore, be it

23 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
24 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims the month of  
25 September 2007 as Hydrocephalus Awareness Month; and be it  
26 further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
28 of the resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.